

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawing includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet replaces the original sheet. In Figure 2, previously omitted element 29 has been added.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application are requested.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct typographical and grammatical errors as noted by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Applicants have also amended claim 1, and canceled claims 5 and 7-10. Accordingly, claims 1- 4 and 6 remain pending in the application.

DRAWINGS

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as supposedly not showing the current detecting part and the electro-optical converter assembled on a board and disposed in a stripper as claimed in claim 5. Applicant respectfully submits that the current detecting part and the electro-optical converter and disposed in a stripper 28 is already shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Applicant has amended Fig. 2 to indicate the board with the new reference numeral 29.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objections to the drawings have been overcome, and respectfully request that the Examiner approve the corrected drawing.

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has indicated that claims 5 and 6 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, Applicant have amended claim 1 to including the feature of claim 5, canceled claim 5, and amended claim 6 to depend directly from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4 and 6 are now all in condition for allowance. Applicant have canceled claim 5 and claims 7-10.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing explanations, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and reexamine the present application, allow claims 1-4 and 6, and pass the application to issue. In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Kenneth D. Springer (Reg. No. 39,843) at (703) 715-0870 to discuss these matters.

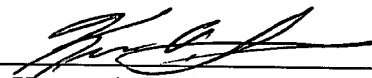
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0238 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS, P.L.L.C.

Date: 9 September 2003

By: _____


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